

Iowa Range

northeast Iowa

Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001. Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.

banded darter

Etheostoma zonale

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Chordata - vertebrates

Class: Osteichthyes
Order: Perciformes
Family: Percidae

Features

The banded darter reaches about 2 1/4 inches as an adult. It is greenish with small vertical bands on the sides. Like other members of the perch family, it has a dorsal fin completely separated into two portions, a rather slender body, and a large bone in the gill cover that ends in a flat spine.

Natural History

The banded darter lives in rivers and large creeks with coarse gravel or rock bottoms. In lowa, it is found in the riffles of the upper reaches of northeast lowa rivers and their tributaries. It is uncommon in most locations. Very little is known about the habits of this darter.

Habitats

interior rivers and streams

Iowa Status

uncommon; native